The number of Ezhavas in the Judicial Department was very inappreciable. It should be made a rule that Ezhavas should be preferred for all appointments on Rs. 40 and above. The Member requested that the present vacancy of the Librarian's post in the Public Library might be given to the Ezhava graduate who applied for the same. There were several qualified men in the community and they found it very difficult to get appointments in the Education Department. The Police, Registration, Excise, and Forest Departments were also inadequately represented by Ezhava employees. An Ezhava graduate applied for a Sub-Inspector's place in the Police Department. Another man who was trained in Mysore applied for a Head Constable's place in the Police department. He was physically fit for the department. It was regrettable that both the above men were not appointed in the department. The recruits were also not selected in sufficient numbers in the Police Department from Ezhavas. Even the Ezhava employees who were working in the Department to the satisfaction of their superiors were not given sufficient encouragement. The Director of Registration did not confer many appointments on Ezhava applicants, although he was appointing people from other advanced communities in large numbers.

Regarding the Excise Department, the Member said that the Ezhavas had a special claim on that department but that the number of persons appointed from the community in that department was not at all adequate. There were several peons and clerks in the Judicial Department and a good number of places of *pakuthi* Accountants in the State. The Member pointed out that the applications from Ezhavas for the above places were not favourably considered by the authorities concerned. The situation was not much better in the Medical Department also. The educated girls from the community were not appointed as school mistresses. There were many Ezhavas who had passed the Sub-Overseers' Test. They also did not find it easy to get admission in the P. W. Department. The Member, therefore, prayed that the Government might be pleased to note the apathy shown by Heads of Departments in the matter of appointing Ezhava applicants and order wider entertainment of Ezhava applicants in all ranks of the Public Service.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panikkar (Member, Nominated) also spoke on the same subject. He pointed out that there were many boys and girls who had passed the School Final Examination and that they were not given teachers' places in the Education Department. There were several of such qualified Ezhava girls, especially in Mayyanad. The Member prayed that the cases of those girls might be favourably considered by the Government.

The Member next requested that qualified Ezhava applicants, who sought admission to the Police Department, should be given the place of Inspectors in the department.

There were many qualified physicians in the community. Though they applied for grants, they did not generally succeed in getting the same, while several unqualified men succeeded in getting grants for Vydiasalas. The Member prayed that such qualified physicians might be helped with grants for the Vydiasalas started and managed by them.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

157. Disabilities of the Travancore Mahomedans.

Mr. P. M. Ismail Munavery (Member, Nominated) said that the backward condition of the Mahomedans of the State was, no doubt, engaging the serious attention of the Government but the exertions of the Government did not seem to have been fruitful. The educational authorities, however, had not been sparing in their efforts to make education popular among the Mahomedans, as a result of which there were more than 94 in every thousand Moslems educated at present. Nevertheless, the community as a whole had not advanced to any appreciable degree either socially, educationally or politically. It had not been brought home to the Moslem community by way of experiments how education, whether Elementary or Secondary, served as a

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means to national success, the profession of the major portion of the community being either commerce, industry or agriculture. The Member then made the following suggestions and added that their cumulative effect must necessarily be to remove the barrier that blocked the progress of the community:—

(1) Primary education among the Mahomedans should be made compulsory in addition to its being free. Extension of primary education among the Moslem masses could be easily accomplished by converting into incomplete Elementary schools the mosque schools, called *maqthabs* or *madarasas*, that lay scattered by hundreds all over the State. That course would obviate the necessity for starting special schools for Mahomedans. The appointment of a Tamil or Malayalam teacher to teach the mother tongue of the Moslem boys was all that was additionally required.

(2) Following the advice of the Special Officer, Industrial Survey, technical and industrial education should be introduced into the lower or higher grade Elementary schools and should be incorporated with the curriculum of studies.

(3) A Demonstration Farm or workshop should be attached to the schools situated in places largely inhabited by Mahomedans in accordance with the requirements of the interior parts of the country and the coast, on a limited scale to start with.

(4) Female education would be indirectly fostered by the conversion of the *Madarasas* into Elementary schools, as girls freely attended such schools. Provision should be made for the *purdah* system in the higher grade Elementary schools.

(5) The Arabic Munshis for such schools should be versed also in Urdu or Hindustani, as the Arabic text books prescribed for the schools contained only Urdu interpretation. The proposed measure would certainly serve to draw many *Dekkani* Mussalman boys, otherwise called Pattani boys, to such schools.

(6) Mahomedan teachers should be freely employed in those schools as that would be an additional source of attraction for the Moslem boys.

(7) The Malayalam text-books for simple Vernacular course selected for such schools, should, besides being of the requisite literary standard, contain no expressions obnoxious to the feelings of the Moslems. The difficulty in selecting such books might be overcome by appointing a Mahomedan Member in the Text-Book Committee who was also able to select the Arabic and Hindustani text-books.

(8) The silver lace industry which was started by a few *Dekkani* Mussalman capitalists was killed by competition with the machine-made lace in Europe. Some descendants of the original manufacturers were trying to revive the industry. The Government should patronise the industry at least with a view to persuade the Moslem parents to send their boys more largely to such modified schools.

(9) The claim of the Mahomedans in the public service of the State should receive special consideration. The minimum qualification for Mahomedan youths for admission to the public service should be up to the IV, V and VI Forms. The Mahomedan candidates should get priority of claim. The Director of Public Instruction should be asked to forward annually a list of successful Moslem candidates to all the Heads of Departments, so that they might not ignore the claims of the Moslem youths in future.

(10) The supervision of the Elementary Moslem schools should be vested in Mahomedan Inspectors of schools. The other things conducive to their welfare should be left to the care of the several Educational Committees established by the Deputy Director of Public Instruction or to the Village Panchayats which should be started under the guidance of the Government, with the elders of the villages as members.

(11) A Government Hostel should be started for the Moslem boys in the Capital, as the necessity for the same was being keenly felt by the boys resorting to it for higher education from the various taluks of the State.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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